

CORE

The Voice of Mineral Exploration

Fall 2018

S-IMEW 2018

An Inside Look

**OUR NEW STRATEGIC
PLAN TO LEAD THE
SECTOR FORWARD**

**PDAC'S
RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR BUDGET 2019**

**PDAC 2019 CONVENTION
NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS**



PROSPECTORS &
DEVELOPERS
ASSOCIATION
OF CANADA



CORE

The Voice of Mineral Exploration
Fall 2018



Editorial

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Communications Department

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Cameron Ainsworth-Vincze

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Kristy Kenny

CONTRIBUTORS

Glenn Mullan, Lisa McDonald,
Nicole Sampson, Krishana Michaud,
Sherry Dickert, Florence MacLeod,
Jeff Killeen, Elena Mazur, Lesley Williams,
Alison Abbott Franklin, Sarah Nazar,
Christina Goncalves Toste, Lynda Joyet,
Zoe Bell, Kimberly Charters,
Chloe Arbutina, Jessica Provencher

DESIGN

Hambly & Woolley Inc.

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ON THE COVER: A student examines
dalmatianite while visiting the Noranda
camp during S-IMEW 2018

800-170 University Ave.
Toronto ON
M5H 3B3
416 362 1969

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INDUSTRY NEWS

NEW TOOLKIT ON GENDER & EXTRACTIVES

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) of the World Bank Group has launched a new toolkit on gender and the extractives, **UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND BUSINESS**. The toolkit was developed to help extractive sector companies create more diverse, gender-balanced and inclusive environments and focusses on four areas:

1. Increasing gender diversity from the workforce to the boardroom
2. Women-owned businesses and the supply chain
3. Women and community engagement
4. Addressing gender-based violence in the workforce

Declining confidence in exploration permit process

According to a Fraser Institute survey of executives, investors are losing confidence in the mineral exploration permitting process in certain parts of the country due to applications taking longer to approve and a lack of transparency. Based on the report, *Permit Times for Mining Exploration in 2017*, 83% of respondents in Ontario said permit times had lengthened over the past decade compared to 73% in British Columbia and 50% in Quebec.

LIBERALS TO EASE CARBON TAX AMID FEARS OVER COMPETITIVENESS

With concerns mounting that sectors will struggle to compete under the federal carbon tax plan, the Liberal Government has indicated they will ease the new rules set to come into effect next year. Environment and Climate Change Canada is developing new guidelines for the amount of emissions businesses can produce before they are required to pay. Under the old guidelines proposed in January 2018, industries in Canada in provinces that do not have their own carbon pricing plans would have to start paying once they exceeded the 70% benchmark for average emissions. Yet under the expected new rules they will only be required to pay if they exceed the 80% benchmark.

CLOUDED OUTLOOK FOR GLOBAL MINING DUE TO TRADE TENSIONS

The outlook for the mining sector has become more clouded in recent months due to trade tensions between the U.S. and China, says Fitch Ratings in its *Global Mining Half-Year Update*. Prices for several commodities, including copper, nickel and zinc, fell sharply in July due to investor concerns about global growth. Trade tensions show no sign of easing and are likely to be the key influence on prices and the main industry factor to monitor over the remainder of the year.



INDUSTRY LEADERS CALL FOR ACTION IN ADDRESSING CANADA'S COMPETITIVENESS TO ENERGY AND MINES MINISTERS

The Canadian Mineral Industry Federation (CMIF), of which PDAC is a co-chair, submitted a brief at the EMMC conference in Iqaluit with details on seven policy areas where collaboration and action by federal, provincial and territorial governments is critical for boosting Canada's ability to attract new mineral investment.

1. Regulatory Challenges

Governments must ensure that Canada's regulatory regimes are effective, efficient, predictable and balanced in order to reduce uncertainty, delays and costs that undermine Canada's investment climate.

2. Enhancing Indigenous Participation and Reconciliation

The mineral industry is the largest private sector employer of Indigenous peoples in Canada on a proportional basis and government investments to improve the socio-economic

conditions in Indigenous communities can further enhance the meaningful participation of Indigenous peoples in the industry.

3. Accessing Prospective Lands

Canadian governments should undertake comprehensive mineral resource assessments, based on geoscientific studies, in order to understand and incorporate the value of mineral potential into regional assessments and land management decisions.

4. Adopt Effective Climate Change Policies

Climate change policies must be revenue neutral, ensure the competitiveness of emissions-intensive and trade-exposed (EITE) sectors, and be sensitive to changing economic and geographical realities such as those in Canada's northern and remote regions.

5. Investments in Innovation and Geoscience

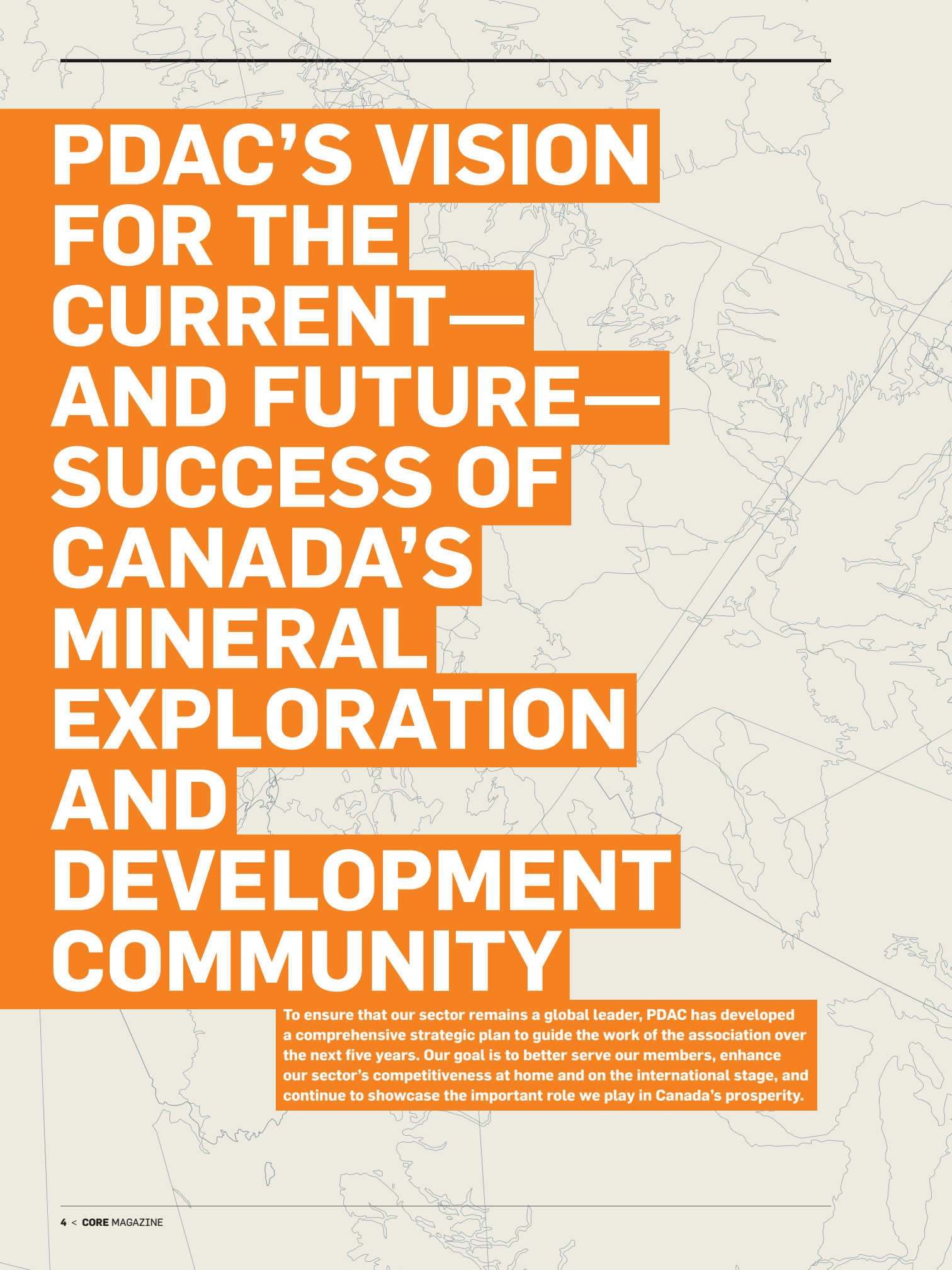
Government investments in geoscience and innovation will spur mineral exploration and mining activity, and are critical to enhancing the industry's efficiency, productivity and environmental performance.

6. Remote and Northern Exploration and Mining

The future of Canada's mineral industry lies increasingly in remote and northern regions and various challenges related to the high costs of operating in these regions must be addressed to support mineral investment and project advancement, and enhance economic development opportunities for northern and Indigenous communities.

7. Stimulating Investment Through Strong Fiscal Policy

Various incentives, competitive taxation levels, and efficient and reliable securities regulations are critical for positively influencing investment in Canada's mineral sector.



PDAC'S VISION FOR THE CURRENT— AND FUTURE— SUCCESS OF CANADA'S MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

To ensure that our sector remains a global leader, PDAC has developed a comprehensive strategic plan to guide the work of the association over the next five years. Our goal is to better serve our members, enhance our sector's competitiveness at home and on the international stage, and continue to showcase the important role we play in Canada's prosperity.



W

hen our association was established in 1932,

it was born from a need to overcome an imposing threat that jeopardized the very existence of its founding members.

It was early on in the Great Depression, and times were tough. A new proposed Engineers Bill put forth by the Ontario government was being considered that would require prospectors filing a work assessment to have the report signed by a mining engineer. Walter Segsworth, a mining engineer, called a meeting at the King Edward Hotel in Toronto to develop a strategy to oppose the Bill. They raised \$168.45, created a campaign, went on to lobby government, and eventually defeated the Bill.

As PDAC celebrated its 85th anniversary this past year, it did so with the same steadfast, pioneering spirit that has guided the association over the years, and that presently faces an array of vastly different challenges and opportunities that impact the work of our now 8,000 members across Canada and around the world.

Today, PDAC is the leading voice of Canada's mineral exploration and development community—represented by a Board of Directors ("Board"), a staff of 25 employees, and 16 committees comprised of some 200 industry leaders and experts that together undertake a wide range of work in the areas of: Aboriginal affairs, access to capital, land access, corporate social responsibility, finance and taxation, geosciences, innovation, human resources, education, securities and public affairs. Anchoring and supporting our work is our annual convention—the world's premier mineral exploration and mining event—that attracts upwards of 30,000 attendees from 135 countries.

Much like in 1932, the objective of PDAC clearly remains to enhance and promote the interests of the mineral exploration and development community, while providing our members with the tools and resources needed to succeed in the field every day.

With over 630,000 Canadians working in the sector (both indirectly and directly) who combine to contribute \$72 billion a year in GDP, creating a modern strategic plan that encompasses the essential trends, developments and economic fluctuations shaping the sector was, to put it mildly, a significant undertaking. To

accomplish this complex process and fully understand the key factors affecting our industry, the Board of Directors went to the greatest resource we have at our disposal—our members.

A comprehensive survey was sent out to all PDAC member individuals and companies in summer 2017 to collect their insights on a range of topics. The survey information was then processed, along with input from PDAC's Board of Directors and partner organizations across the country. Once tabulated, the Board convened for two days in Toronto to review the results and align the findings with the current priorities of the association.

One key component of the process was to analyze the advancements made on the priorities of PDAC's previous strategic plan that was formulated in 2012 and focussed on three distinct areas: Aboriginal affairs, access to capital, and access to land. In addition, the Board identified three areas of opportunity the association should expand upon in the development of a new strategic plan: diversity and inclusion, innovation, and how we can better tell our story.

Guided by an external facilitator during the two-day workshop, the Board methodically distilled and discussed the data it had collected, openly debated the long-term objectives of the association and the resources and limitations available to support every idea, and gradually narrowed in on a list of targeted areas that are at the core of why we exist as an entity and what we need to accomplish at this moment in our history.

After further deliberation and discussion throughout the remainder of 2018, the plan was refined and gradually brought to life. The overarching themes that encompass the breadth of the plan were divided into four distinct pillars—competitiveness, influence, engagement and leadership—that will be at the forefront of the association's work over the next five years and are supported by a subset of goals that we aim to monitor, achieve and measure.

Our strategic plan is ambitious. Yet similar to 1932 when our association was founded and faced an imposing obstacle, it strives to ensure that our industry and our members don't just survive in the immediate years ahead but thrive throughout the 21st century and beyond.

TO ACHIEVE OUR STRATEGIC VISION PDAC WILL FOCUS ITS ADVOCACY AND PROGRAM WORK AROUND THESE FOUR KEY PILLARS.

COMPETITIVENESS

The mineral exploration and development industry has the access to land, capital, skills and resources needed to maintain competitiveness.

Canada is the top jurisdiction for mineral exploration and development activities

- The industry has access to lands with high mineral potential and the costs, risks and delays associated with mineral exploration are reduced.
- The regulatory regime in Canada is effective, efficient, predictable, transparent, and provides certainty.
- Land use decisions are balanced and are informed by comprehensive mineral resource assessments of lands.
- Infrastructure in northern and remote regions in Canada enhances responsible mineral development.
- The type, quantity, quality and accessibility of public geoscience information available to mineral explorers is improved and helps increase the rate of discoveries in Canada.
- The Canadian mineral exploration and development industry is at the forefront of innovation, which enhances efficiency, effectiveness and performance.
- Canada's regulatory and policy frameworks support the competitiveness of the mineral industry.

Canada is the top jurisdiction for mineral financing

- Canada's fiscal regime is practical and supports investment in the mineral industry.
- Fiscal incentives are available that help flow capital to mineral exploration.
- Regulatory reforms reduce the costs of capital-raising in Canada.

The mineral industry has access to an inclusive, diverse, skilled workforce

- All aspects of the mineral industry are inclusive and supportive of diversity.
- Industry leadership and workforce are diverse and inclusive.
- PDAC's strategic partnerships work to address the industry's future human resource requirements.
- PDAC student and education programs are leveraged to educate and encourage youth about the opportunities to pursue careers in the industry.
- PDAC programs and strategic partnerships ensure students receive adequate training and education.

INFLUENCE

The mineral sector is recognized and valued as an essential industry that positively contributes to the economy in Canada and globally.

The mineral industry is recognized as a valued industry by stakeholders

- Balanced information about the industry and industry's stories are communicated across various channels.
- The mineral industry is recognized as essential to modern life.
- The mineral industry is known as a critical component of the economy and for the economic opportunities it provides to regional and local communities.
- The mineral development sequence, particularly exploration and development, is well understood.
- The unique risks and opportunities facing mineral exploration are effectively communicated.
- PDAC communicates information about the mineral exploration industry to governments, communities and the public to help increase awareness and understanding of the sector.

ENGAGEMENT

PDAC is the respected voice of the mineral exploration and development community.

PDAC is the respected voice of mineral exploration

- PDAC is known for fostering information-sharing, dialogue and collaboration across the industry and with partners and stakeholder groups.
- PDAC has effective engagement with government officials.
- PDAC is recognized by all levels of government across Canada as a trusted source of information about the mineral industry.
- PDAC is known for producing sound, credible policy positions in support of its membership and the industry.
- PDAC produces quality information, tools and publications.
- PDAC cultivates partnerships with provincial, territorial and other associations to collaborate on industry-wide issues.
- PDAC develops relationships and collaborates with Indigenous groups, stakeholders and civil society.

PDAC fosters a global mineral industry community

- The PDAC brand is recognized and respected in Canada and globally.
- The PDAC Convention continues to be the foremost international event for the mineral industry.
- The value that PDAC provides to members year round is synonymous with the convention.
- PDAC has an engaged, sustainable membership base.
- Beyond the convention, PDAC provides continuing professional education, training and networking opportunities in numerous forums directed at advancing member and industry interests.
- PDAC demonstrates a clear value proposition to its membership.

PDAC is an effective, high-performing association

- PDAC is adequately resourced with sustainable sources of revenue.
- PDAC effectively harnesses the knowledge and experience of its volunteers and members.
- PDAC is a flexible and adaptive organization.
- PDAC has a sound, robust governance structure that optimizes organizational effectiveness.
- PDAC fosters a collaborative, positive environment with opportunities for continuous learning and professional growth.
- PDAC will work to employ industry leading practices to ensure diversity and inclusion.

LEADERSHIP

The mineral exploration and development industry employs environmentally and socially responsible and safe practices in Canada and around the world.

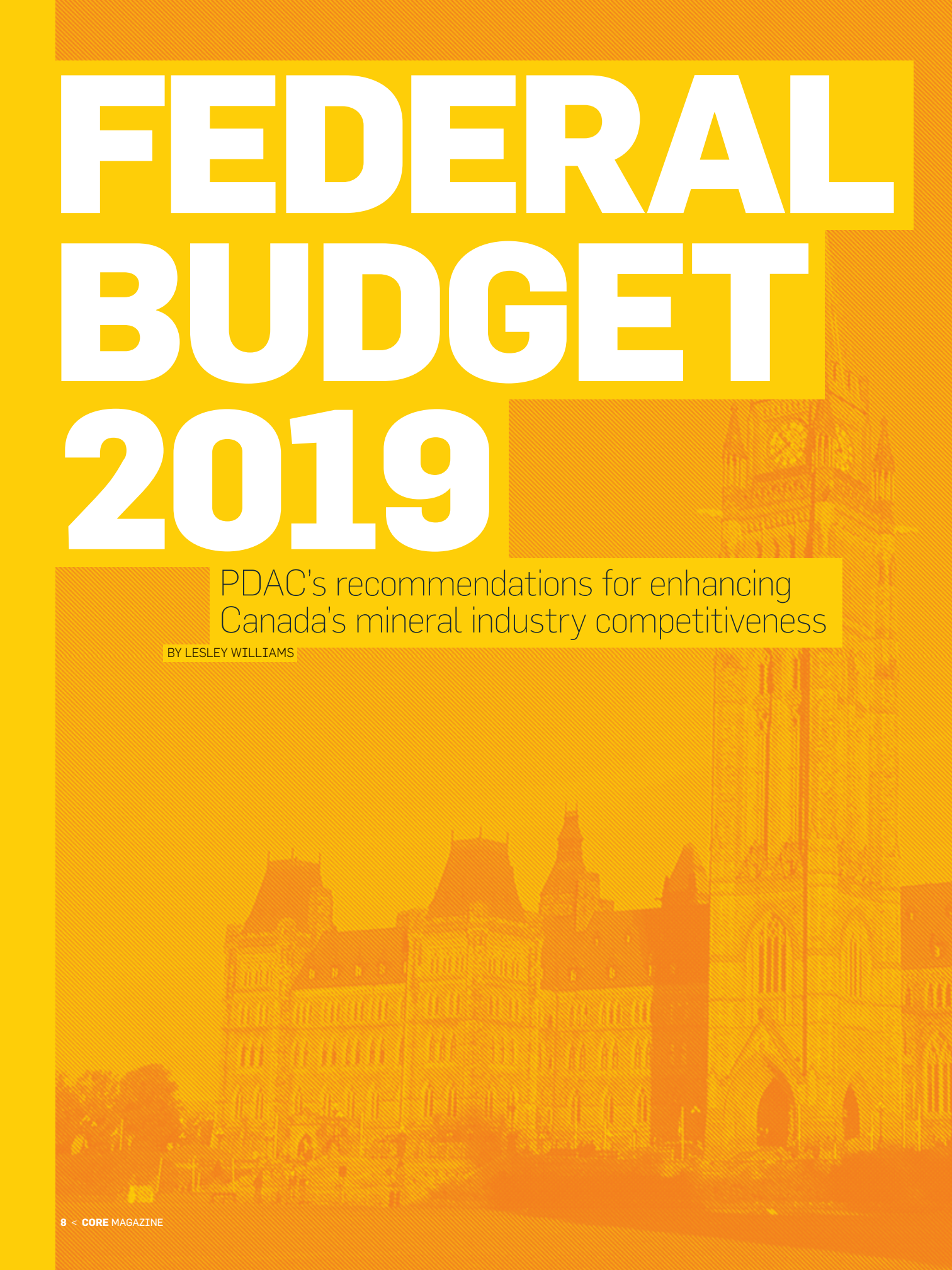
Mutually-beneficial partnerships between the mineral industry and Aboriginal communities drive success

- Strong, mutually-beneficial relationships between companies and Aboriginal communities are enhanced.
- Participation by Aboriginal Peoples in the mineral industry increases.
- Mineral industry is recognized as a leader in Aboriginal engagement.
- Collaboration with Aboriginal groups on issues of mutual interest and importance is enhanced.

The mineral exploration and development sector is a global leader in environmental, social and health & safety practices

- The mineral industry continues to enhance its environmental and social performance in Canada and abroad.
- The mineral industry is recognized as a safety conscious industry.
- Improvements in health & safety practices are advanced towards the goal of zero harm.
- PDAC tools and guidance contribute to improved industry performance, including *e3 Plus: A Framework for Responsible Exploration*.
- Collaboration with communities on issues of mutual interest and importance is enhanced.
- Exploration industry reports on its performance.
- Mineral industry performance and responsible practices contribute to enhanced respect for and trust in the mineral industry. **c**

FEDERAL BUDGET 2019



PDAC's recommendations for enhancing
Canada's mineral industry competitiveness

BY LESLEY WILLIAMS



s the leading voice of the mineral exploration and development

community, and on behalf of its members, PDAC submitted recommendations to the Federal Government for Budget 2019.

Canada's mineral industry generates significant economic and social benefits in remote communities, Indigenous communities, and cities across Canada. It employs over 630,000 workers across the country, contributes more than 3% to the GDP (\$72 billion), and accounted for 19% of Canada's total domestic exports in 2017. It is also a proven leader in building relationships and partnerships with Indigenous peoples.

Support for Canada's mineral sector is critical in driving new discoveries that will lead to new mines, ensuring that it will continue to responsibly generate economic and societal benefits while remaining internationally competitive.

Canada's mineral industry faces fierce global competition for investment. Proponents and investors have a multitude of options when making decisions about which jurisdiction to explore, mine or invest in projects. Canada is falling behind its competitors in a number of areas, indicating its decline in attractiveness as a destination for mineral investment. The government plays a key role in enhancing conditions to foster a competitive Canadian mineral industry that will continue providing significant wide-ranging benefits to Canadians and Canadian businesses.

In its pre-budget submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance, PDAC highlighted the critical need to address waning mineral investment in Canada and made recommendations focused on enhancing Canada's mineral industry competitiveness.



Renewal of the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit (METC) for a period of three years

Fiscal and tax incentives support the flow of capital into mineral exploration projects, ultimately supporting Canada's competitiveness in the global mineral industry.

Originally introduced in 2000, the METC is an innovative "made-in-Canada" policy tool that has complemented the flow-through share regime. It incentivizes exploration financing by providing individuals who invest in companies that are exploring for minerals in Canada with a 15% tax credit on eligible expenditures.

For Canada to regain its leadership position for mineral exploration, the METC plays an essential role. A multi-year renewal of the METC will provide longer-term stability for exploration companies, including multi-year exploration program funding and planning. Exploration companies and investors need certainty that they can finance not only the current year of their exploration programs, but also any subsequent exploration necessary to fully scope the mineral potential of a particular property.

Recommendation: Given the importance of the METC to catalyzing investor interest in flow-through shares and the need for certainty of continued access to exploration funding for proponents, PDAC recommends that the METC be renewed for a minimum period of three years.

2

Enhancing mineral industry competitiveness in Canada's North

Challenges related to the high costs of operating in remote and northern Canada must be addressed to support mineral investment and project advancement, and enhance economic development opportunities for northern and Indigenous communities.

The future of Canada's mineral industry lies increasingly in remote and northern regions. These regions experience economic and geographic circumstances that impact the activities and success of the mineral industry in various ways—particularly costs. Due to a significant infrastructure deficit in northern and remote regions, it can cost up to 6 times more to explore and 2 to 2.5 times more to build new mines. Furthermore, the federal carbon pricing backstop and the resulting Output Based Pricing System will add additional costs to mineral projects in Canada's northern and remote regions, further reducing the viability of these projects.

Taken together, these costs will adversely impact Canada's mineral industry competitiveness. Without any action, Canada will lose out on development opportunities and associated benefits to more competitive jurisdictions.

Recommendations: PDAC recommends that the government take action to support the mineral industry's competitiveness in northern and remote regions by:

- Addressing the infrastructure deficit through increased, strategic investments in critical transportation and energy infrastructure.
- Ensuring that any new carbon price regime addresses the unique challenges faced by remote and northern regions and includes a fiscal support mechanism for mineral exploration projects that must rely on diesel and other fossil fuels (e.g. rebates, a funding pool, or tax credit).

3

Investments in Indigenous communities to support participation in the mineral industry

Government investment is critical to enhancing the meaningful participation of Indigenous peoples in the mineral industry.

The mineral sector strongly supports efforts to facilitate meaningful participation of Indigenous peoples in the economic opportunities it generates through training, business development and procurement, employment and mutually-beneficial partnerships.

There is great potential to further increase participation, particularly given the young, growing Indigenous population, the impending mineral industry labour shortage and the proximity of Indigenous communities to projects.

Recommendations: PDAC recommends that the Federal Government support efforts to enhance the participation of Indigenous peoples in the mineral industry through:

- Foundational social investments (housing, water, infrastructure) that contribute to improved health and educational outcomes for Indigenous communities.
- Targeted funds for skills training and entrepreneurship to assist Indigenous peoples in maximizing opportunities generated by the industry.

4

Accessing prospective lands—balancing conservation and economic development goals

Canada's ability to attract mineral investment, increase its rate of discoveries and advance mineral exploration projects to mine development is contingent upon responsible access to prospective land.

Canada's geological endowment is one of our primary competitive advantages over other countries. To capitalize on this advantage, mineral rich areas must be available for exploration to increase the probability of making a discovery. Knowledge of which lands are prospective for minerals and access to these lands profoundly influence investment decisions made by companies and investors, ultimately affecting Canada's mineral industry competitiveness.

Industry understands the value of protecting ecological and cultural sites, yet it is important to ensure that the mineral potential of lands is factored into all land use/withdrawal decision-making processes. This requires the scientific evaluation of lands to ensure that prospective mineral development areas are not unduly removed from potential exploration and development. This would help ensure that rights-holders, stakeholders and governments have the full scope of information available to them—for both conservation and economic purposes.

Recommendation: PDAC recommends that the Federal Government create a funding mechanism for provincial and territorial governments to support the undertaking of comprehensive mineral resource assessments, based on geoscientific studies, in order to understand and incorporate the value of mineral potential into regional assessments and land management decisions (e.g. land withdrawals).

5

Investments in geoscience and innovation in the mineral sector

Government investment in geoscience and innovation is critical for spurring mineral exploration activity and enhancing industry's efficiency, productivity and environmental performance.

Geological surveys in Canada play a critical role in producing high-quality public geoscience information, which has attracted exploration activity to Canada and led to successful discoveries. Currently, the absence or low quality of geological maps and models compound other challenges faced by industry, particularly those exploring in Canada's northern and remote regions. Innovation in the mineral sector is also critical for advancing efforts to improve efficiency and productivity in the search for new mineral deposits needed for modern society, as well as enhancing environmental performance.

Recommendations: PDAC recommends that government support geoscience mapping and innovation in the mineral sector by providing:

- Increased funding to the Geological Survey of Canada, particularly for mapping of remote regions.
- Funding mechanisms or fiscal incentives for mineral companies to encourage the testing and adoption of innovative technologies and processes (e.g. innovation funding mechanism, tax credits, etc.). **C**

PDAC 2019

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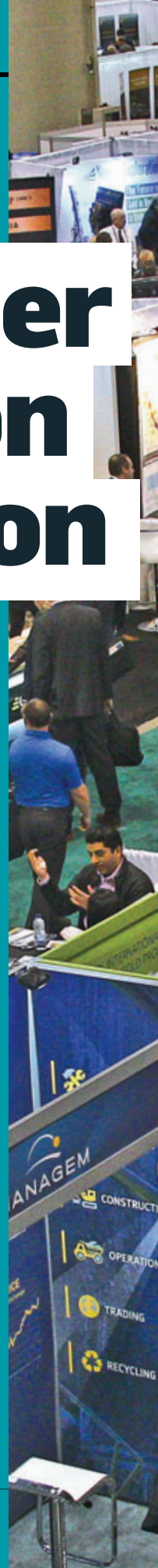
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SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Promote your brand at PDAC 2019

Stand out from the competition and position your organization as an industry leader through our comprehensive sponsorship programs.

Sponsorship provides effective brand marketing strategies to reach your target market and showcase your organization to key investors. Our tailored programs are designed to enhance your corporate profile through unique and diverse year-round and on-site initiatives.

FEATURED OPPORTUNITIES

Opening Day Events (Opening Day Reception & Commodities Session)

Your brand will be recognized at the highly anticipated Opening Day Reception where thousands of attendees will gather on the Trade Show North floor for a complimentary drink. Your company will also receive recognition at the popular Commodities and market outlook session that attracts private, retail and institutional investors, analysts, brokers, business reporters and government leaders from over 100 countries.

Trade Show Reception

This significant PDAC networking event provides an opportunity for attendees and exhibitors to exchange ideas and converse on the show floor. Your company will have excellent exposure prior to and onsite at the event through specialty signage and marketing promotion.

Located in the North Building, the Monday Reception is open to thousands of attendees who will be treated to a complimentary drink courtesy of your company.

The PDAC 2019 Sponsorship & Marketing Program launched **September 21**. Contact Christina Goncalves Toste, Manager, Convention Sponsorship & Partnership Development at sponsor@pdac.ca

EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITIES

Core Shack

The Core Shack offers a venue for companies to display their core. Attendees are welcome to get up close and personal with projects that are generating exciting new drilling results.

Apply by November 2.

Investors Exchange

A hub for junior exploration companies, major mining companies, mid-sized producers, prospectors and stock exchanges interested in raising capital or investing in the exploration and development industry.

Apply online now.

Prospectors Tent

This is a great opportunity for self-employed or independent prospectors to display maps, samples and claim results.

Apply online now.

Trade Show & Trade Show North

The prime location for organizations and governments promoting the latest technology, products, services and mining jurisdictions to come face-to-face with company decision makers and promote awareness to a worldwide market.

Apply online now.

Learn more at

www.pdac.ca/convention/exhibits

PRESENTATION OPPORTUNITIES

Exploration Insights

Apply to present your technical, policy or academic abstract! Exploration Insights is a high-profile venue for speakers who wish to present topical subjects in a forum outside the themed Technical Sessions. All interested individuals, including academics and graduate students, are welcome. **Apply by October 30.**

Presentation & Reception Rooms

Launch a product, present a workshop, meet clients and prospects and/or promote your mining jurisdiction or country.

Presentation Rooms can accommodate up to 200 people and are available for half- and full-day rentals. Reception Rooms are ideal for groups of 50 to 100 people and can be rented in two-hour intervals. Rental fees include several benefits to enhance your organization's visibility at the convention.

Apply online now.

Learn more at

www.pdac.ca/convention/programming/presentation-reception-rooms

TECHNICAL PROGRAM

These dynamic and engaging series of presentations are led by industry experts who will share their timely insights.

Technical Program themes include:

- Advances in mineral systems modelling of Ni-Cu-PGE and gold
- Coarse gold: The good, the bad, and the risky
- Commodities: Metals and industry outlook
- Diamond exploration and mining: Optimizing outcomes through increased understanding of technology
- Exploration undercover
- Finance
- From pre-feasibility/feasibility to construction: The last pieces of the puzzle
- Geometallurgy
- Geophysics
- Keynote session: The new generation
- Mining valuation: International convergence & market viewpoints
- New destinations in mineral exploration
- New discoveries and developments
- New exploration technologies
- Responsibly sourced minerals
- Seafloor mining
- Technology metals
- Western USA mineral deposits: A return to known districts

Learn more at **www.pdac.ca/convention/programming/technical-program**

Note: Technical Program themes are subject to change



NETWORKING EVENTS

Visit www.pdac.ca/convention/networking-events for the latest info on these must-attend events.

OPENING DAY RECEPTION

Sunday, March 3
4:00 – 6:00 pm

Connect with attendees, exhibitors and colleagues as PDAC welcomes you to the largest networking event at the convention.

MINERAL OUTLOOK LUNCHEON

Monday, March 4
12:00 – 2:00 pm

IS THE MINING INDUSTRY INVESTING ENOUGH OR ARE METAL SHORTAGES INEVITABLE?



Julian Kettle
Vice Chairman of
Metals and Mining
Wood Mackenzie
Guildford, UK

Join us as **Julian Kettle**, Vice Chairman of Metals and Mining, Wood Mackenzie discusses the possibility of metal shortages due to lack of investment in the mining industry.

Mr. Kettle has 30 years of experience in the analysis of metals and mining and is a recognized authority on the aluminum industry across the value chain from bauxite mining through to end-use analysis. He frequently presents to senior industry and financial community stakeholders on Wood Mackenzie's analysis across the value chain of the metals and mining space covering copper, lead, nickel, zinc, iron ore, aluminum, steel and coal.

His typical consulting assignments include: market environment assessment, expert witness, raw materials sourcing, contract pricing, portfolio optimization and strategic advisory relating to brownfield and greenfield investments. Mr. Kettle holds a degree in metallurgy and micro-structural engineering.

Ticket includes a three-course meal.

A sold out event in 2018.
Buy your tickets when registration opens!



TRADE SHOW RECEPTION

Monday, March 4
3:00 – 5:00 pm

Enjoy a glass of wine or beer as you network with Trade Show North exhibitors and attendees from international and domestic companies, including organizations promoting technology, products, services and mining jurisdictions.

STUDENT-INDUSTRY NETWORKING LUNCHEON

Tuesday, March 5
11:30 – 1:30 pm

The flagship event of the Student Program, this reception-style buffet luncheon provides an opportunity to make valuable connections with industry professionals and peers. The winner of the Mary-Claire Ward Geoscience Award and the Joan Bath and Peter Howe Bursary for Advancement in the Mineral Industry will be announced, as well as the selected 2019 Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop (S-IMEW) students.

PDAC AWARDS GALA & AFTER PARTY

Tuesday, March 5
5:30 – 11:00 pm

The PDAC Awards Gala celebrates industry excellence and brings together the who's who of the global mining industry. Network at the exclusive cocktail reception followed by a three-course gourmet dinner and fine wines.

Then... it's on to the AFTER PARTY!

Your opportunity to meet and mingle with the Award recipients, C level executives, financiers, brokers and mining developers. Enjoy two complimentary drink tickets and a great party atmosphere—the perfect backdrop for unlimited networking!

A sold out event in 2018.
Get your tickets early in December!

GRAND FINALE

Wednesday, March 6
8:00 pm – 12:00 am

After four exhilarating days at the world's premier mineral exploration and development convention, join us at the must-attend **GRAND FINALE!**

It's your time to **PARTY!**
Join us at this **FREE** event!

Dress casual and get your two **FREE** drink tickets at the door, grab a bite to eat and **dance, dance, dance!**



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(AT AUGUST 31, 2018)

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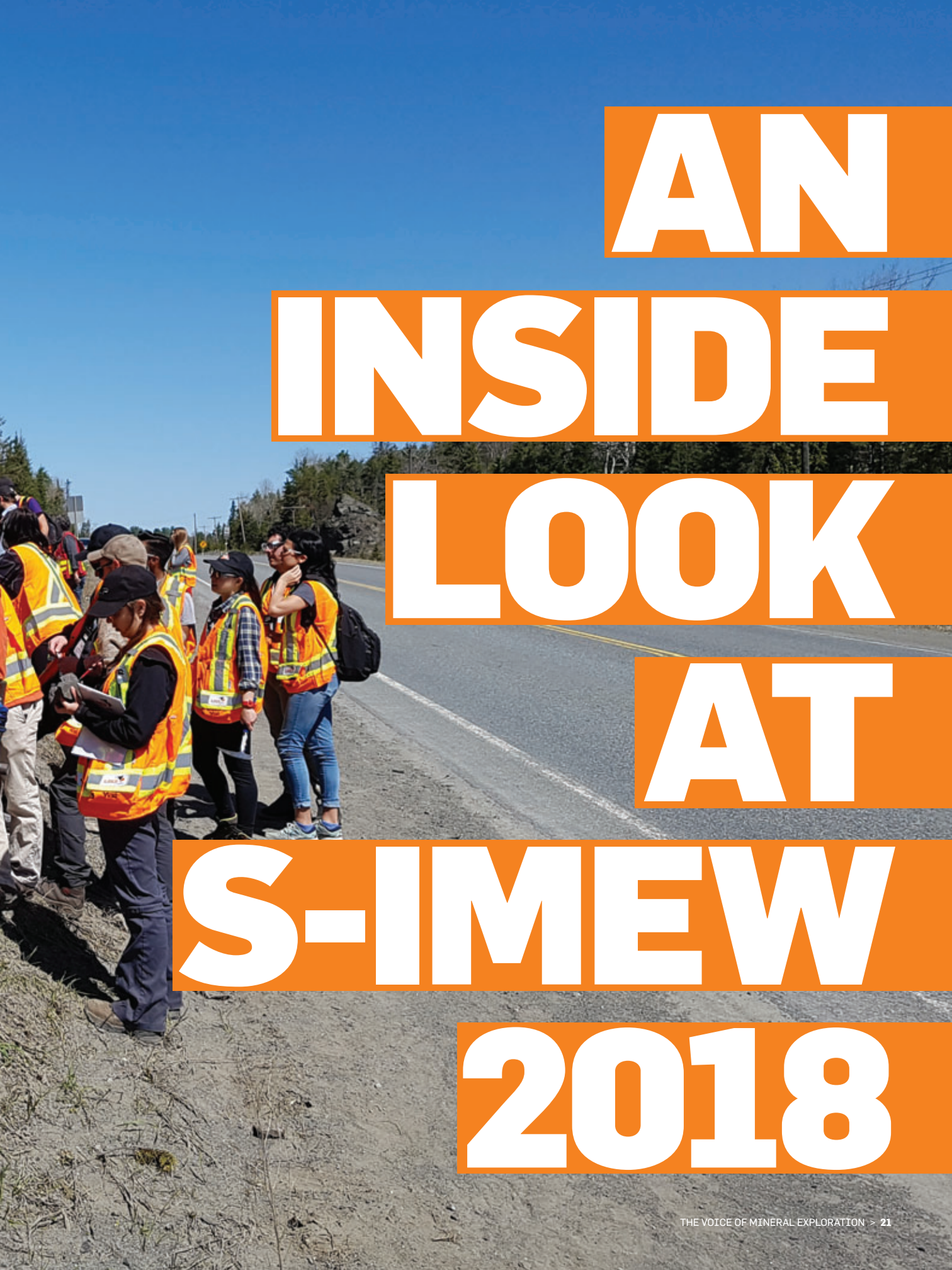
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AN INSIDE LOOK AT S-IMEW 2018

It's a competitive world out there, and getting a spot in PDAC's Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop, better known as S-IMEW, is no exception. Each year, top geoscience students from across the country are selected to take part in a two-week program that exposes them to the countless career opportunities available in the mineral exploration and mining sector.

BY KRISHANA MICHAUD AND KRISTY KENNY



he workshop is multi-faceted. It includes a combination of lectures, field exercises, visits to exploration and mine sites, world-class mining camps, and vital networking with industry professionals. S-IMEW is highly regarded for its excellent lineup—reflecting the realities of the industry, including its challenges, and is seen as a potential recruitment opportunity for companies looking for the next generation of talent. Many S-IMEW alumni have gone on to have successful careers and become prominent figures in the industry.

In 2018, 26 students from all over Canada travelled to Sudbury, Ontario to take part in S-IMEW. For many, touring Agnico Eagle's La Ronde mine 2.8 km underground was their first time stepping foot on a mine site. Other activities included a surface and underground tour at Nickel Rim South mine, participating in various mapping exercises with Wallbridge Mining, the Ontario Geological Survey and Probe Metals, and a day spent with First Cobalt learning about cobalt exploration.

Now in its 12th year, S-IMEW provides a unique platform for students to get out of the classroom and turn their textbook knowledge into first-hand practice. All expenses for the workshop are covered thanks to the ongoing generosity of the sponsors, volunteers and PDAC. **C**





S-IMEW Q&A WITH GLENN MULLAN



Q Tell us about your role in S-IMEW and how long you have been involved.

My involvement started around eight years ago. Scott Jobin-Bevans, then PDAC President, asked me to help coordinate a Val-D'Or field trip, and I was hooked! Students are always enthusiastic and their questions cut to the chase. Early on it was all about contacting local mining and exploration companies to see who might be interested in hosting students, explaining their businesses, showing them around active exploration sites, arranging field trips, including one to the local Resident Geologist's office of the Québec MERN (Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources du Québec), and occasionally inviting some special guests to liven things up a bit.

Q If you were to describe S-IMEW to someone who didn't know anything about it, or the mineral exploration and development industry, what would you say?

For the many who only know PDAC by its convention in Toronto, S-IMEW is my first reply because it is proof of how much more we actually do. In fact, during the PDAC Convention S-IMEW events have grown into their own program, complete with alumni events, luncheons, and of course the networking opportunities for which we are so well-known.

S-IMEW in a few more words? Take around 25 of the luckiest and best students from across Canada, pluck them from their universities, throw them into minivans to Sudbury, and give them two weeks of courses, talks, inspired case histories, visits to underground mines, meetings with local suppliers and contractors, industry veterans, S-IMEW alumni, government ministers, leading technology companies, field trips and fabulous networking opportunities, mixed with socializing. The group at the end is very different than the group at the beginning, and they are our ambassadors.

Mining and exploration is quite simply a treasure hunt for adults, with all of the perks for success, and all of the impediments to make it a challenge. How do you find a mine worth billions of dollars? Blind luck, technology, good ideas, supportive communities and solid partnerships.

Q What does S-IMEW represent to you?

The best part of PDAC, other than the convention. It is the entry level, the next wave of professionals, and the participants benefit from the highest echelon of mentorship. I think about how lucky they are because I would have loved to have had an opportunity like that. But I am grateful to be a participant, however small the role. Experience, access to exploration sites, learning about new techniques in geophysics, geochemistry, diamond exploration, and becoming aware of new trends and enhancements to older techniques such as core logging, and soil and sediment sampling. PDAC makes these things accessible to students who generally have very limited knowledge outside of academic experience.

Q Have you noticed any changes in students over the years?

The biggest change is there have been more than 200 of them in total! Their enthusiasm, appreciation and commitment are constants, but now they are their own community and so many of the alumni are giving back to the program. It takes a while for them to appreciate the grandeur of their experience, but they do get it and they do come back and continue their involvement.

Q The S-IMEW itinerary covers many aspects of the geosciences. What is the most important thing you learned as a student?

Graduation Day is not the end, it is just the beginning. I was a bit shy with how little I knew at the start of my career, at least from the perspective of pure, grass-roots exploration. S-IMEW is a big step towards recognizing that most students find themselves in similar circumstances, the so-called "knowledge-gap", when they show up at their entry-level jobs. It is a bit of a shock, but then most of us go through it and here we are. S-IMEW is a way to shortcut some of the hurdles, teach industry best practices, and encourage early dialogue with communities and recognize that not all parts of society, Canadian or international, rural or urban, southern or remote regions, have the same opportunities. Knowing that helps our students be better at their roles—it removes the mystery of exploration from some communities who may not be aware of our intentions, and strategies.

Q Was there anything like S-IMEW available when you were studying?

Two summers of Canadian Armed Forces in Petawawa gave me the bug for being outside and then reading about the Klondike and the fine line between desperation and motivation helped make geology look good. There was certainly nothing like S-IMEW.

Q What advice do you have for aspiring geologists and prospectors?

Buy the Mining Act for your province, understand it, and get your prospector's license. I am often amazed at how many geologists and earth scientists do not have a prospector's license. It is astounding how much power an individual has at their disposal. Stake a few mining claims. The industry will have its ups and its downs, you will always be glad to have that "prospector" hat when things get quiet. And you will learn that is why the biggest transactions and best opportunities come from those cyclical bottoms, not the tops. You'll be plenty busy at the tops anyway, so get those prospector tools for the other parts of the natural economic and commodity cycles. Survival is the key to success, and prospecting will teach you many basic survival skills.

Q Did you have a mentor? If so, who was it and what did they achieve?

It is fair to say that I had two of them. My Uncle, Ashton Mullan, was one of the early owners at McPhar Geophysics which evolved into Phoenix Geophysics, which still exists. He saw how I loved the outdoors aspect of being in the Armed Forces (not a natural path for someone from downtown Montreal) and knew that I had visions of the Yukon, prospecting, finding a mine, and so on. Uncle Ashton gave me not just my first break, but first Brunton as well (Google it!). That first job was north of Norman Wells, NWT, in the Gayna River area. It blew my mind and I was hooked before the first supper. I was being paid to get into a helicopter and go break rocks, something I would have done for free! Then I worked in Hemlo, Chibougamou, Kirkland Lake, Timmins, and finally my favourite of all, Val-D'Or, which I still consider the best exploration community in Canada. My Uncle, who was a mining engineer, constantly encouraged me and in particular, to become independent and stay that course. I will always be grateful for that first opportunity.

Shortly after I ended up in Val-D'Or, I was fortunate to meet Dr. Jean Descarreaux, a gentle and soft-spoken man. Long after that I came to appreciate his stature and many accomplishments. Such a noble man who left a legacy that benefits so many, flow-through shares in Quebec being one of them. But he was a classic mentor, always sharing, talking, encouraging me to explore in places others were not, and to relook at areas that had been passed over. He was most definitely someone I sought out for encouragement and direction.

Both of my mentors were well-rounded individuals who were years ahead of the pack in that they respected small communities, rural environments, First Nations and Aboriginal engagement, and what we now call corporate social responsibility. I think they both had their own terms which certainly conveyed "do it properly".

Q What kind of career opportunities await students today as they enter the sector, and why is a career in mineral exploration, in your view, worth pursuing?

There are certainly more opportunities today than back when I graduated, but much of the motivation should be the same. The challenge, the thrill, the way your heart beats when you are popping open one of your core boxes, the way you can see something that is attainable but has not been done before—all of that. It is a great profession, all of the earth sciences, but to me, prospecting is still the best part. Don't do it for financial motivation. You have your entire life for that, and things have an amazing way of finding equilibrium over time, don't be in a rush, but do get that prospector's license, and do it soon. **C**

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S-IMEW HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE STUDENTS



**JOACHIM DE
FOURESTIER,
CARLETON
UNIVERSITY**

S-IMEW 2018 was an amazing experience! It gave me quite an insight into today's mineral exploration industry. I got the chance to meet with so many professional geologists, experts and company owners. I was given the opportunity to learn from personal experiences and obtain actual "practical" knowledge! You get to learn and experience things you will never see in school, such as going almost 3 km down in the Agnico Eagle LaRonde gold mine (they let us collect our own samples!), as well as seeing so many rough and cut diamonds and holding one up close. And I got the chance to meet the many good-spirited students with such enthusiasm and knowledge. We still keep in contact! One thing is certain, I will never forget these two weeks of action-packed, sleepless days of awe-inspiring geology.



**TAYLOR
MCPHERSON,
BRANDON
UNIVERSITY**

I got the most out of the one-on-one conversations with the field trip leaders at the outcrops, and in the vans. I probably learnt the most in those moments where I really got the opportunity to ask the questions! Seeing the pristine outcrops, the pillows and various textures was amazing. The conglomerates were my favourite.

Going underground at Nickel Rim South and seeing that world-class mine garage was really interesting, not to mention going 2,900 m underground in a gold mine was absolutely fantastical! One of the highlights would have to be just the relationships built on this workshop. I still talk to those students all the time and I know we have built lasting relationships. S-IMEW feels more like a little family to me now.



**ETHAN
AMYOTTE,
UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA**

I really enjoyed learning about how to conduct analysis on an exploration property using publicly available data and spatial software.



**DALLAS
DIXON,
UNIVERSITY
OF REGINA**

While attending S-IMEW, each day brought something new and exciting. Some of these include seeing tourmalinization in drill core and outcrops. The tourmalinization was associated with various alterations that I hadn't seen before either in core or hand sample. Another great day involved lake geochemical sediment sampling with the Ontario Geological Survey. Most students are exposed to till and soil sampling, but never get to experience sampling while on a lake, and this experience helped to showcase many new opportunities in geochemistry. Other favourites of S-IMEW were logging kimberlite core and seeing a banded iron formation for the first time. Lastly, having lunch at Onaping Falls during our tour of the Sudbury Basin with the other S-IMEW students is something I'll always remember.



**CANDICE
YING WOEI OOI,
UNIVERSITY
OF TORONTO**

S-IMEW has so much to offer, not to mention field trips around the Sudbury basin, to Val d'Or, visits to mine sites and a diamond cutting and polishing facility. For me, one of the highlights at S-IMEW was being able to see the drills in action! I found it mind-blowing as I'd never seen an operating drill before. Another unforgettable experience at S-IMEW was with the Ontario Geological Survey—we were able to do lake sediment sampling and till sampling, something that is not offered at my university. S-IMEW brings in professionals from various backgrounds in mining. The insights from these professionals together with the hands-on experience gave us a taste of different roles in the mineral exploration and mining industry. This helped me explore my career options. Meaningful friendships were also built from S-IMEW. I miss the S-IMEW crew already!



**COURTNEY
ONSTAD,
UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN**

Learning about the importance of developing strong community relations between junior exploration companies and local communities was very interesting. As students, we don't get exposure to these additional aspects of the mineral exploration industry that have to be considered, but S-IMEW allowed us to discover these. Finding suitable agreements between both parties is a critical step in the exploration process. **c**





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